

K-187

Fairview/Ford Farm  
~~Address?~~ *near Galena*  
c.1830

The name Fairview is first mentioned in a mortgage made by William Gooding on his half interest in the farm in 1879.<sup>1</sup> The other half of the farm was owned by the Rev. Cornelius Prettyman and his wife. In 1880, in a lease agreement, Gooding rented his half to the Prettymans while he was out of the country. In that agreement Gooding is referred to as "temporarily residing in Leipzig in Europe."<sup>2</sup>

Slightly before the above mentioned transactions took place, in the early or mid 1870's, the farm had been leased to George and Harriett Ford who had moved from Cecil County. The Ford family remained tenants on the farm until after the deaths of Gooding and Prettyman. It was at this point that the Ford's son, Samuel and his wife Eliza Jane Spry purchased the farm. They resided here for many years, raising their children to maturity. The farm passed on to their oldest son Herbert Spry Ford, in whose family it remained until 1995. The house which George and Harriett Ford moved into had already been standing for about thirty years. It was in about the same condition as is shown in the photograph taken in 1910.

A handsome late Federal frame farmhouse, it was composed of a large five bay block with one and one half story kitchen wing. In form and date it is similar to Timber Level, the John Carvill Sutton Farm built near Black 's Station in 1838. Fairview, however, had two sophisticated dormers on the roof which had pilasters and segmentally arched roofs of their own.

The interior plan was like the earlier Mt. Herman, near Chesterville, with central stairhall, living room, dining room and kitchen with pantry. The stair is a handsome late Federal work with turned newels and round handrail which rises above each newel. Two balusters per step give an openness to the balustrade. One of the mantels is typical late Federal work while the other is more like the antebellum mantel found in a bedroom at Moreton Hall (c. 1860).

Fairview is well constructed and a house typical of the second quarter of the 19th century Kent County landscape. It represents the prosperity which resulted from better farming methods introduced in the County around the turn of the Century and is probably a replacement of an earlier house that had been worn out by previous generations.

1. Land Records, Lib. DCB 4, fol. 187.
2. Land Records, Lib. DCB 5, fol. 623.

K-187

Circa 1820-1840

Lambson Farm

Near Galena

Private

The frame house at Lambson Farm is one of quite a few 2-1/2 storey, five-bay-wide upper-county houses that are essentially Federal in style, form, and plan though built in the second quarter of the nineteenth century. Though they are handsome, well-executed buildings, probably the best houses of their time, they indicate the architectural conservatism and persistence of style in Kent County. While unabashedly Greek Revival dwellings were being built elsewhere, these houses show only a tendency toward Greek-Revival-influenced details, and usually only on the interior, especially in mantels. Lambson Farm is only a little more than two miles east (measuring across fields along the railroad track route) of a dated house, Timber Level, K-598 (1838), near Black's Station whose main section is strikingly similar, both in form and detail; both are frame. They may be quite close contemporaries, one perhaps influencing the building of the other. Both very likely reflect the return of agricultural prosperity to a county whose soils had become depleted, where farming practices deteriorated, and that was adversely affected by changing markets and western competition. At Timber Level a new main section was added to a small eighteenth-century 1-1/2 storey dwelling that evidently had become too small and inadequate for a newly prosperous farming family. While the 1-1/2 storey end wing at Lambson Farm has been too altered to tell much about it, the situation may have been the same there. Close by, northeast of the intersection of Rt. 290 with the Lambson-Millington Forest Road, there is another house that in its interior details is very similar to Lambson Farm's, though the plan is very different--side-hall, two rooms deep. The same builder may have been involved in all three of these buildings, known at Timber Level to have been G. M. Leary. Historically, there is no relationship between this farm and the Lambson family. The name for the farm is quite modern, chosen because of its proximity to Lambson's Station. Lambson family properties were nearby

# Maryland Historical Trust

## State Historic Sites Inventory Form

### 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Lambson Farm

### 2. Location

street & number Northwest side Rt. 290, 3 miles north of Chesterville ☐ not for publicationcity, town Chesterville ☒ vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Kent

### 3. Classification

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

### 4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Mrs. Harriett F. Bowen and Mrs. Catherine F. Ayres c/o Harriett F. Bowen

street &amp; number 207 Glasgow Road telephone no.: 778-6359 (Ayres)

city, town Cary state and zip code North Carolina 27511

### 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.	Court House	EHP 122
		liber EHP 122
		76
street & number	Cross Street	folio 73

city, town Chestertown state Maryland

### 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Maryland Historic Site Inventory - HABS Inventory

date May 1970 ☒ federal ☒ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust, 21 State Circle

city, town Annapolis state Maryland

## 7. Description

Survey No. K-187

### Condition

☒ excellent  
☐ good  
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated  
☐ ruins  
☐ unexposed

### Check one

☐ unaltered  
☒ altered

### Check one

☒ original site  
☐ moved      date of move \_\_\_\_\_

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Lambson Farm, located on the northwest side of Route 290, is about halfway between Galena and Chesterville. The house faces southeast, paralleling the public road. To the south is the railroad track of the line from Chestertown to Delaware. The frame main section, probably dating from about 1820 to 1840, is built in a vernacular late Federal style. The also frame, three-bay-wide, 1-1/2 story wing (really a true 1-1/2 story building with dormers) is too altered to attempt to date, virtually rebuilt in the mid twentieth century and put back against the main section's southwest gable-end, from which it had been removed earlier. A frame rear wing has been removed from behind the southwest room of the main section. The main section is five bays wide and two deep. The main entry is in the central bay. There are two dormers, with segmentally-arched roofs, in the southeastern roof slope, placed over the inner side bays. There is a small, modern, gable-roofed porch at the main entry. At each gable end, within the wall in the center, is a chimney. The wing also has an end chimney.

(Continued)

## 8. Significance

Survey No. K-187

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

**Specific dates** Circa 1830-1840

**Builder/Architect**

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D  
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The house at Lambson Farm is one of quite a few 2-1/2 story, five-bay-wide upper-county houses that are essentially Federal in style, form, and plan though built in the second quarter of the nineteenth century. Though they are handsome, well-executed buildings, probably the best houses of their time, they indicate the architectural conservatism of the period and persistence of style in Kent County. While unabashedly Greek Revival dwellings were being built elsewhere, these houses show only a tendency toward Greek-Revival-influenced details, and usually only on the interior, especially in mantels. Lambson Farm is only a little more than two miles east (measuring across fields along the railroad track route) of a dated house, Timber Level, K-598 (1838), near Black's Station whose main section is strikingly similar, both in form and detail; both are frame. They may be quite close contemporaries, one perhaps influencing the building of the other. Both very likely reflect the return of agricultural prosperity to a county whose soils had become depleted, where farming practices deteriorated, and that was adversely affected by changing markets and western competition. At Timber Level a new main section was added to a small eighteenth-century 1-1/2 story dwelling that evidently had become too small and inadequate for a newly prosperous farming family. While the 1-1/2 story end wing at Lambson Farm has been too altered to tell much about it the situation may have been the same there. Close by, northeast of the intersection of Rt. 290 with the Lambson-Millington Forest Road, there is another house that in its interior details is very similar to Lambson Farm's, though the plan is very different--side-hall, two rooms deep. The same builder may have been involved in all three of these buildings, known at Timber Level to have been G. M. Leary.

(Continued)

Survey No. K-187

## 1

The first storey of the wing is now divided into two rooms on the first storey, but all the work appears fairly recent. A rear, one-storey, shed-roofed enclosed porch spans much of the wing and includes a bathroom.

On the main facade and southwest end the main section walls are covered with horizontal, lapped weatherboard with exposure of about 5". On the northeast end and rear wood-grained aluminum siding has been applied. The end wing has horizontal, lapped weatherboard with c. 5-1/4" exposure on the main, southeast facade. It shows signs of alteration there about 28" from its junction with the main section, perhaps indicating a hyphen between the replaced wing and the house, perhaps signifying just general changes. There is aluminum siding on the rear enclosed porch.

There is a cellar only under the dining room (southwest room) of the main section. It is now entered from the enclosed porch. The foundation there is built of uncoursed granite, probably from the Port Deposit quarries that seemed to provide foundation material for numerous middle to late nineteenth century houses of the upper county. Most likely, Georgetown was its major "port of entry" into Kent County, having been transported down by bay by boat or barge. This foundation material is seen far less frequently in the lower part of the county. The foundation of the wing is now concrete block, part cellar and part crawl space. The wing cellar is separate from the main-section cellar and entered differently, from the wing.

All house roofs are covered with asphalt shingles that simulate wood shingles. There is a small, plain box cornice on the main section and a slight overhang on the ends. The wing really has no cornice, probably due to its being a true 1-1/2 storey, where rafters ended on a low wall plate and there was no joist to be carried outward to form the cornice in the eighteenth and nineteenth century manner. Sometimes rafter extensions were added onto this type of building, but not in this case. The dormers have unusual, segmentally-arched roofs. Their sash is double-hung with 6-over-6 lights.

A chimney is located at each end of the main section, within the wall at the center. They are built of brick that has been parged and painted white. The northeast chimney has a 2-course band below the chimney's top course; the southwest chimney has a three-course cap, with brick cornerposts and a metal hood. The wing chimney, also brick and painted white, would have been built after the wing move c. 1950. It has a two-course band beneath the top course.

The main entry is in the central bay of the southeast, main facade. The door has six panels and may not be original to this location. There is an added side-filler piece. There is a wooden storm door in place. The transom has four lights. The exterior trim is very wide and plain; the fillet is 7-1/2", and there is an inside bowtell of 1". The entry into the rear of the center hall has been closed with plywood. There is a heavy sill there. The backband of the trim there is a rounded ogee and bead, with outside fillet. There are two entries into the wing from the exterior: through the rear porch into its center, and through an opening in the center bay of the southeast, approach

(continued)




side. There is a six-panel door in place, with escutcheon and broad lock rail. However, given the other changes in the wing, identification of this door may be meaningless.

The windows of the main section are all double-hung except for now: fixed glass at the landing between the second and third storey. Sash have 6-over-6 lights. The second-storey windows are shorter than those of the first storey; though windows in general are not notably tall; in fact they are quite short. The pair of gable windows at each end have 2-over-4 lights. Sills are bold, and trim is about 3-3/4" wide and executed as at the hall's rear door. The dark-green shutters have fixed louvers and may not be the originals. The wing windows are also double-hung, with 6-over-6 lights except for the pair of windows in the west gable, which have 4-over-4 lights. The enclosed porch's rear window's are grouped, and there is a single southwest-end window, for a bathroom. The rear of the wing roof has a three-bay shed dormer, apparently a c. 1950 alteration. The front gable-roofed dormers may not have been original to the building either, where if the wing historically was a true 1-1/2 storey building, it most likely would not have had roof dormers, but rather short double-hung windows in the walls between floor and rafter ends. If this section was originally a true 1-1/2 storey building, it probably dates from the second half of the nineteenth century.

The stair is half-turn with landings. It is open-string, with two rectangular balusters per tread. The rail rises over the intermediates, which are like the starting newel, goose-necking at the intermediates. The newel is slender and turned, above a small square base. The stair is open to the third story, with a total of seven intermediates. The small window at landing level between second and third storey is added. Second-storey doors have three horizontal panels above one, large, square-appearing one below the lock rail

There is no evidence that this farm had any connection with the Lambson family, which did live in the area and for whom the train station at the track's intersection with Rt. 290 was named. The Lambsons owned property, including a brickyard, on the east side of Route 290 and along the Lambson-Millington Forest road, which intersects Rt. 290 just north of Lambson Farm. The name for the farm seems to be a quite modern one, chosen for the location name by which the area had come to be known--"Lambson's Station." According to the Martenet map of 1860, William Gooding then owned the farm. In 1877 it was owned by "Rev. Prettyman," according to the Kent County atlas of that year, although the Kent County land records indicate that it was not until 1884 that the heirs of William Gooding sold the farm to Emma E. Prettyman, wife of Cornelius W. Prettyman of New Castle County, Delaware. (SB 11/331) How and when William Gooding acquired the farm could not be ascertained.

After the railroad station came, the area became one with considerable activity. By 1860 school was located at the point created by the intersection of the Lambson-Millington Forest Road. In 1855 the first Catholic church built in Kent County was erected on the southeast corner of Dennis McCauley's farm to the north of Lambson Farm (though during the 1880s it was dismantled, the bricks to be reused for a rectory at the new church site in Galena).

1. STATE <u>Maryland</u> COUNTY <u>Kent</u> TOWN <u>Galena</u> VICINITY <u>Lambson Station</u> STREET NO. <u>Rt 290, 1 mile North of</u> <u>R.R. track (west side of Rd)</u> ORIGINAL OWNER ORIGINAL USE <u>dwelling</u> PRESENT OWNER <u>James Hurtt</u> PRESENT USE <u>dwelling</u> WALL CONSTRUCTION <u>frame</u> NO. OF STORIES <u>2 1/2</u>		HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY INVENTORY <u>K-187</u>	
2. NAME <u>Lambson</u> DATE OR PERIOD <u>c. 1800</u> STYLE <u>Federal</u> ARCHITECT BUILDER		3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE	
4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION OPEN TO PUBLIC <u>No</u> <p>Lambson is like many of the large two and one-half story houses of Kent County except it is built of frame covered with clapboard. In appearance it resembles Glenmore near Kennedyville except that its wing is only one and one-half stories high, instead of two full stories.</p> <p>It stands on a brick foundation and has two brick chimneys within the gable walls. Its windows have 9/6 sashes on first story and 6/6 on second story, both with louvered shutters. There are two dormers on each side of the "A" roof.</p> <p>Its kitchen is three bays long and one room deep (as is the main portion) and has a chimney on its south end.</p> <p>From the appearance of the woodwork etc., it appears to have been built around 1800 and is of the "Federal style".</p>			
5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE Endangered <u>No</u> Interior Exterior <u>good</u>			
6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional) 		7. PHOTOGRAPH	
8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages) INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.		9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER <u>Michael Bourne</u> DATE OF RECORD <u>May, 1970</u>	

Lambson - K-187

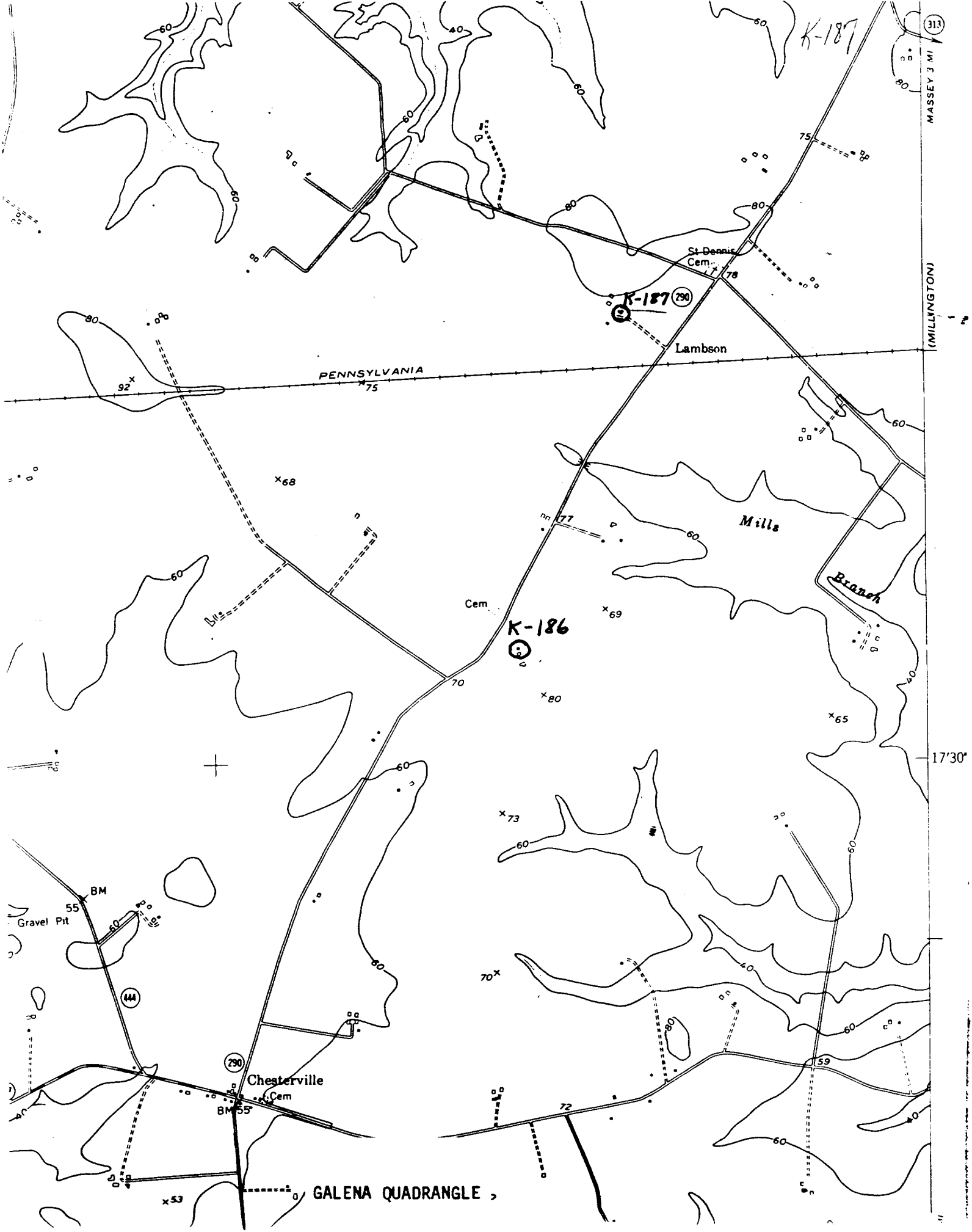
Lambson is like many of the large  $2\frac{1}{2}$  story houses of Kent County except it is built of frame covered with clapboard. In appearance it resembles Glenmore near Kennedyville except that its wing is only  $1\frac{1}{2}$  stories high instead of two full stories.

It stands on a brick foundation and has 2 brick chimneys within the gable walls. Its windows have  $\frac{9}{16}$  sash on 1<sup>st</sup> story and  $\frac{6}{8}$  on 2<sup>nd</sup> story, both with lowered shutters there are two dormers on each side of the "A" roof.

**Its** kitchen is 3 bays long and one room deep, (as is the main portion) and has a chimney on its south end.

From the appearance of the woodwork etc, it appears to have been built around 1800 and it of the 'Federal style'.

MAB 5/19/70



313

(MILLINGTON)

17°30'

GALENA QUADRANGLE



K-187

Lambson Farm

Rt. 290, near Chesterville

M. Q. Fallaw - 12/17/85

View to north

A

K187  
#1  
dac





K-187

Lambson Farm

Rt. 290, near Chesterville

M. Q. Fallaw - 12/17/85

View to northeast

K187  
#12  
702